

## ANOTHER TRIP FOR KING OF THE TRAMPS

Eddie Simms, Extraordinary Hobo, Uses Soap.

## AN EXPERT DEADHEADER

Has Mania for Not Paying Railroad Fares, But Seldom Gets Into Trouble.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Bloomington, Ill., boasts of the most remarkable tramp on record. This tramp washes. Instead of being thrown into convulsions at the sight of soap, he actually carries a bar with him on all his travels. He carries a brush and comb. He wears a suit of jeans over his clothes to prevent them from being soiled. He keeps a diary. He always has a toothbrush in his pocket. He carries a knife, so as to make sure of catching trains. Instead of drifting aimlessly north and south, like the wild birds do, this tramp travels strictly on schedule. He scorns freight trains and rides only on fast passenger trains.

The Bloomington tramp that washes is Eddie Simms. While he is only twenty-one years of age, he has already been around the world, has been in every section of the United States and has made extensive jaunts in China, Japan, the Philippine Islands, Germany, Belgium, England, France and Australia.

And he never paid a cent of fare in his life.

## Uncrowned King of Tramps.

Eddie Simms is the uncrowned king of the tramps. He is a tramp because he is passionately fond of traveling. He is poor and cannot pay fare. But, even if he were rich, it is doubtful if Eddie Simms would pay for his rides. He loves the excitement of "beating" his way.

And another unusual thing that this unusual tramp does is to carry on all of his travels a portmanteau. Think of a tramp with a portmanteau. It's a wonder that the weary wanderers, the Hungry Henriets, the Dusty Rhodeses, and the other shining lights of the profession do not have him committed to an asylum. This portmanteau that the tramp who is not afraid of water carries consists of a gunnysack in which he has rolled a suit of underclothes, a towel and a shirt. In the pockets of his clothes he carries a whisk broom, a comb, a cake of soap, and a toothbrush. When he arrives in a town which he desires to honor with his presence he takes off the jeans suit, makes his toilet at a river or pond or public bathhouse, brushes his clothes neatly, puts on a clean shirt and gets a 5-cent shave if he has no razor, though he often carries one. Then he appears on the street neat and clean. From his appearance he is never taken for a tramp, and he has never been arrested for vagrancy or anything else, for that matter. He detests hand-outs, and he seldom makes back-door calls. He always secures work in the town where he stops, thereby again proving how different is the tramp that washes from the ordinary unwashed kind.

## Expert in Free Riding.

There is probably no tramp in the country so expert in the gentle art of beating soulless railroad corporations of free rides as Eddie. He rides under the cars on the air-brake beams, on a seat swung from the brake-beams, on the blind ends of the baggage cars or on top of the cars. Only once has he been "ditched," as tramps call it when they are thrown off a train. That was last summer, when he was visiting at his home in Bloomington. The Chicago and Alton bears the reputation of being the hardest railroad in the world on which to beat a ride. While riding up to Chicago one day on Conductor Fox's train Eddie was exhumed from somewhere under the brake-beams and ignominiously hurled out of the car. The reputation of the Chicago and Alton as a stealer in the world could not get ahead of the Chicago and Alton. Conductor Fox put in an application for a gold medal. The boy tramp that washed was so ashamed of himself that after he returned home to Bloomington he sneaked down alleys and was ashamed to look honest men in the face. But instead of leaving Bloomington after a few days' stay, as he had at first planned, he determined to devote the next two months in riding on the Chicago and Alton Railroad and vindicating his fair name, which was temporarily trailed in the dust.

So he beat his way on the Alton to Kansas City and to St. Louis and up and down and back and forth, but he did not consider that he had retrieved his reputation and fairly cleared it of shame and reproach until he had ridden in daylight on Conductor Fox's train from Bloomington to Chicago on the day when W. E. Cain, the Alton detective, who is the archrival of tramps, was himself on the train. After vindicating himself before the world and the railroad companies as well as before his wandering brethren, Eddie Simms is ready to start on another long tour and he will leave Bloomington within a few days.

Eddie speaks German perfectly, converses in Spanish and has a working knowledge of Japanese. Among others he can sing the entire Japanese national hymn, and knows many of the proverbs of the country.

Wherever he is he manages to keep in touch with current events by reading the newspapers, and he "steps" over from one country to another to see all the events of interest.

## MOUNT PLEASANT METHODISTS.

A service was held at the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mount Pleasant, yesterday. The pastor, the Rev. Joseph Dawson, preached a sermon on "The Message of Christmas." A special musical program will be given next Sunday under the direction of F. C. Roach, musical director.

## LITTLE CHANCE FOR ANY CURRENCY MEASURE

Mr. Shaw Says None Will Be Passed This Session.

"There will be no currency bill passed by Congress at the present session," said Secretary Shaw today.

The Secretary bases his prediction upon interviews he has had with Senators and Representatives as to the possibility of financial legislation this winter. The leaders in both houses have assured him that no measure changing the banking statutes can become a law this session. They admit the desirability of legislation which would provide an element of elasticity to the currency, and which would prevent the occasional periods of stringency at crop moving times. But they point out that there are so many conflicting views as to the kind of legislation that should be adopted that it will be impossible to harmonize them and obtain action in the short time remaining.

A prolonged discussion of any financial scheme proposed could not be avoided. When Congress reassembles on January 5, it will have exactly fifty days in which to complete this work. There are so many important measures pressing for attention that the currency situation, without any well-defined plan outlined for its improvement, will not be allowed to consume time.

It is possible, Secretary Shaw has been told, that the House may give some consideration to the Fowler bill, but since the Treasury officials do not favor that measure it is doubtful whether it will pass. At the Senate end of the Capitol it is not expected that the currency question will be considered even in committee.

For these reasons Secretary Shaw has given up all hope of legislation this winter, but he purposes to keep up the "campaign of education" in the expectation that some succeeding Congress will come to the relief of the banking world.

## DIVINE BLESSING IS INVOKED FOR SCHWABS

Their Benevolence Gladdens Poor of Two Cities.

BRADDOCK, Pa., Dec. 25.—"God bless Mr. and Mrs. Schwab," is the sentiment spoken earnestly and prayerfully by hundreds of aged and deserving poor in this city and in Homestead who were recipients of gifts as the result of the kind thoughtfulness and generosity of Charles M. Schwab, president of the Steel Trust, and his wife, who, enjoying themselves under sunny skies on the Mediterranean, thought of the poor in the towns in which they spent more than a score of years of their later life.

Monday shocks were received from Oliver Wren, Mrs. Schwab's private secretary in New York, for \$2,000 for Bradnock's poor and \$2,000 for those whose Christmas would have been a sad and hopeless one in Homestead without the remembrance.

Ministers, physicians and policemen were all pressed into service to locate the really deserving poor of the two towns. Many of the old workmen of the Carnegie Steel Company who are on the pension list that Mr. Carnegie established a year ago were known to the United States Steel Company's local foreman, and these were remembered with a substantial Christmas dinner.

In this city \$1,100 was distributed among 200 families. With a few exceptions, \$4 worth of Christmas turkeys and trimmings, or, in more needy cases, the ready money, was given to each deserving family. The scenes in many of the homes in the first ward foreign colony when Santa Claus came were pathetic in the extreme.

Nine hundred poor children, between six and twelve years, received toys that Santa Claus could not have brought them, and 5,000 children from all the schools, parochial, private and public, were given boxes of candy. Three hundred dollars was spent for toys.

In Homestead 200 families were located by ministers, priests, and the Salvation Army, the latter finding the greater number, and to each family \$5 in money or the equivalent in provisions for Christmas dinners, was distributed. The other \$1,000 was given to the Sunday schools of the town, Catholic, Jew, and Protestant alike, in \$25 allotments, to be used to the best advantage among the poor children. The prayers of joy from the Bradnock and Homestead poor to their beloved benefactor reached across the seas as well to the skies.

## MURDERED MAN'S BODY FOUND IN THE SNOW

Had Displayed Watch and Money in Saloon Shortly Before Crime.

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Dec. 25.—John Druff, a mason's helper, was found murdered at Bound Brook yesterday. His body, which was covered by several inches of snow, was discovered by a railroad watchman, a short distance from Paska's saloon, on West Main Street.

Druff's skull and face had been crushed in with a heavy cedar club, which was found near the body. The object of the murder was robbery. Druff had displayed \$70 and a gold watch in a saloon known as the Alley at 1 o'clock yesterday morning. He was waylaid a block from his home within twenty-five feet of a saloon, and on a much-traveled thoroughfare.

The murdered man's pockets had been rifled and a number of papers and worthless articles were found scattered about his body.

The police have no clue to the murderer. Druff was unmarried and an industrious workman, who saved his money.

## PLENTY OF CHRISTMAS CHEER, BUT ALL PAID FOR

Drinkers Disappointed in the City of Brotherly Love.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—Thousands of half pints of whisky were passed over the bar by saloonkeepers throughout the city yesterday. Most of them were paid for. Last year these half pints were given away for the asking.

The Retail Liquor Dealers' Association decided some time ago to stop the practice of making Christmas gifts because of the expense entailed.

In the Second, Third, and Fourth wards there was waiting and gnashing of teeth. Of "Merry Christmases" the saloonkeepers were prodigal, but half-pint flasks they did not give away.

There were lunches galore, from the standard pretzel-pickle-bread-and-cheese outfit to turkey and cranberry sauce, and enough whisky was sold over the bars to float battleships, but it cost money.

For years after the Brooks high license law became operative every drinker in these wards was laden on Christmas Day with a generous load of glassware in the shape of well-filled small bottles. This made the absence of the half-pint flasks felt all the more yesterday.

Inquiries at the police stations at Seventh and Carpenter and Second and Christian Streets elicited the information that the number of drunk and disorderly prisoners was rather small. In both station houses last night there was less than a score of inebriates, and in not a single case was a half pint of whisky found.

## SPENCER'S INJURIES MAY NOT PROVE FATAL

Colored Man, However, Was Badly Mutilated by Trolley Car.

Garfield Spencer, colored, who was struck by a Brightwood Avenue car last night, near the District line, and seriously injured, has a fair chance of recovery. Both of his legs were fractured, and the physicians at Freedman's Hospital, to which he was taken, were of the opinion this morning that the left will have to be amputated at the ankle. He is also cut about the head and shoulders, and his body is a mass of bruises.

Spencer was struck by a south bound car which was coming into the city at a rapid rate of speed. According to the motorman, J. Hall, and the conductor, J. Harrison, they were unable to stop Spencer until too late to stop the car. He was walking on the track.

Spencer was dragged for some distance and the car had to be "jacked up" in order to get him from under the trucks.

## FATHER RETURNS AFTER MANY YEARS' ABSENCE

Disappeared Suddenly, But Refuses to Talk About His Wanderings.

ORANGE, N. J., Dec. 25.—After being absent from his family for twenty-eight years, Michael Smith ate his Christmas dinner with his sons, Joseph and Patrick Smith, at the former's home, at 258 Main Street, Orange.

When the elder Smith left Orange suddenly more than a quarter of a century ago his wife and three sons were living. The father had been a successful man. One day he left home, ostensibly to go to New York, and nothing was heard of him until two months ago.

In the elder Smith's absence one of the sons and the mother had died. The father wanted his sons to visit him at East Saginaw, Mich., but as both are in business here they finally persuaded the father to visit them. The elder Smith said he did not care to discuss his going away. He is now seventy-one years old.

## EXTENSIVE DEAL IN OIL LANDS AND WELLS

Control Secured of 5,500 Acres in Ohio With 277 Wells for \$517,500.

LIMA, Ohio, Dec. 25.—The biggest oil transaction since the Standard Oil Company's \$600,000 purchase, was made here Wednesday afternoon, when William L. Russell, of this city, and Charles E. Russell, of La Porte, Ind., effected a deal involving \$517,500.

The property comprises the leases and wells of the following eight companies: Morris; Shawnee; Thompson; Anglin; Weissmeyer; Kerr; Spillack & Jones; Kerr, Closser and Vanclave, and J. B. Kerr & Co.

There is an acreage of 5,500, with 277 wells, producing nearly 20,000 barrels settled production a month. The property is scattered through Allen, Van Wert, and Auglaize counties, and is developed territory.

## COAL RECEIPTS LIGHT AND DEMAND BELOW AVERAGE

The comparatively small demand for coal at the offices and yards of the dealers this morning has given rise to the belief that the public is better supplied with fuel than has been generally believed. Coal receipts yesterday and today did not reach the average.

As a Christmas remembrance to the members of the Police Department, John R. McLean, of the Washington Gas Light Company, has issued an order that coke shall be sold to policemen at the prices which prevail before the scarcity of fuel was felt. Superintendent Leitch of the company informed Captain Gosford, and word was last night telephoned to all of the station-houses.

## SOCIETY TO MEET.

There will be a public meeting of the Evangelical Society, theological department of Howard University, next Sunday afternoon, at the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church.

## ARTISTS WANT TARIFF ON OLD MASTERS TAKEN OFF

Appeal to Be Made to President for Free Entry.

An appeal will soon be made to the President by artists throughout the country for assistance in having the present tariff on works of art removed. The President will be asked to assist in the passage of a bill which provides for free importation of works of art created fifty years before their date of entry into this country.

This question was agitated several years ago, but without result. It is the contention of many artists the importation of poor foreign productions can do no harm, while it will be beneficial generally to have the masterpieces sent here.

In discussing the question this morning, Harold L. MacDonald, a prominent artist of this city, said: "Being a Democrat, I am naturally for low tariffs. But, irrespective of what a man's views on commerce are, I have always thought commercial art is a bad thing for art. Consequently I am strongly in favor of no tariff at all on these works. I am strongly against encouraging commercialism at home."

"From an educational point of view I favor free importation because it will permit many masterpieces to be shown in this country that otherwise would always remain on the other side of the water. Today we can go into a department store, or the homes of the so-called middle class, and see adorning the walls art at \$1.49. Now, is it right to encourage this sort of thing?"

"It is just as true as any proposition that the man who combines commercialism with art is making a master stroke in the destruction of fine art. There is a code of morals that every artist should study and follow. First of all, he should never endanger his integrity as an artist. And then he should feel contentions about all the work that he places before the public. He should not look on a piece of work and say to himself, 'Well, that isn't much good, but I guess it will bring something.' That is what will prove disastrous."

"I sincerely doubt if tariff kept out any more bad work than it does good. You can depend on it, no foreign artists with commercial tendencies are losing by it. In importing a painting to this country he will always appraise it much lower than its actual value. Then the piece is sold to the buyer at a price which more than pays for the picture, and its market value, too. And through these methods Uncle Sam is also a loser."

## THE NEWS OF GEORGETOWN.

Silver Star Lodge of Good Templars, of Tenleytown, held its Christmas entertainment last night at Good Templar Hall, on the Brookville Road. The following program was rendered: Chorus, "Joy to the World," by members of lodge; "Story of the Birth of Christ," Miss Cora L. Bowling; "Ten and Talk," Grand Chief Templar Sylvester W. Russell; recitation, "Bible Hymns," J. T. Finney; solo, Miss Edith Allen; reading, Miss Anna Purdy; recitation, Miss Edith Allen; chorus, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," by members of lodge; recitation, "Just Before Christmas," Ralph Smith; solo, Miss Mabel Eggleston. After the program presents were distributed to the members.

On the evening of January 11, the Rev. Mr. Thomas, pastor of St. Alban's Chapel, Tenleytown, will preach at St. Alban's Church, the occasion being the celebration of the nineteenth anniversary of Silver Star Lodge. The members of the lodge will attend in a body. The anniversary will be formally celebrated by the members of the lodge at the regular meeting to be held January 15.

The funeral of Miss Annie Bateman took place this morning from Trinity Catholic Church. Requiem mass was chanted over the remains at 9 o'clock. Short services were held at the late residence of deceased, 2416 O Street northwest, before the remains were removed to the church. The interment was made at Holy Rood Cemetery.

Miss Bateman was the daughter of Thomas J. Bateman. She had been ill for several months. She is survived by her mother and several brothers and sisters. She was a member of the Catholic Woman's Benevolent Legion of Holy Trinity Church.

An automobile in charge of Dr. B. F. Montgomery and his brother, Harry B. Montgomery, and a party of four friends, collided yesterday afternoon with a tree near the corner of Thirty-first and M Streets northwest. The accident occurred while rounding the corner. Owing to the slippery roadway the wheels of the machine began to slide, and it became unmanageable. All of the occupants were thrown out, but fortunately none was badly injured, a wheel, and the lamps on the vehicle were smashed.

Arthur B. Hardy was taken to the Georgetown University Hospital yesterday morning to receive treatment for a broken nose, inflicted by a man by the name of Parker, with whom Hardy had engaged in an altercation. Parker struck Hardy across the face with a large shovel. The fight took place on Thirty-fourth Street, near its intersection with Wisconsin Avenue.

Henry Kengia, of Thirty-seventh Street, extended, was reported this morning to be in a critical condition. Owing to his advanced age, it is feared that his illness will result in death. Mr. Kengia is over ninety years of age, and is said to be very wealthy.

Daniel Donnelly is at the Georgetown University Hospital, suffering from an attack of typhoid fever.

James Horrihan, who has been confined to a ward at the Georgetown University Hospital for several weeks with typhoid fever, is rapidly recovering.

The football game which was to have been played yesterday afternoon on the Georgetown University campus, between the Tanglewoods and the Knickerbockers, was postponed indefinitely, on account of wet grounds.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas, of Maryland, had been secured by the congregation of St. Alban's Church, Tenleytown, to assist the Rev. Dr. G. C. F. Bratnah, the pastor.

## CHICAGO SPENT FOURTEEN MILLIONS FOR XMAS GIFTS

Bought Goods of Better Grade and in Larger Quantities Than Ever Before.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Chicago spent \$14,000,000 for Christmas gifts. It bought goods of better grade and in larger quantities this year than ever before.

State Street has recorded the greatest Christmas trade in its history for the month of December. Monday was the banner day of the season, and in the history of State Street.

Although no accurate estimate can be secured, on the grand total of the day's sales in the shopping street, one house was reported to have aggregated sales to the extent of \$200,000 for the day. A representative of the house is authority for the statement that the report is below the actualities of the day's business. The estimated total of \$14,000,000 was made by Leon Mandel, of Mandel Bros., and is based on comparison with last year's business. Other merchants placed the total at a higher figure.

## NATE SALSBERY MADE FORTUNE AS MANAGER

Actor of "Troubadour" Fame Died Wealthy.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—At the funeral of Nate Salsbery, which will probably be held tomorrow at Long Branch, Main Lodge, F. A. A. M., will have charge. The interment will be in this city on Sunday.

Nathan, familiarly known as "Nate," Salsbery, enjoyed the distinction of being one of the few actors who became millionaires. He did not owe his fortune to his stage work, but to his ability as an organizer and manager of circuses.

In early years, so to speak, Salsbery was at the head of the theatrical company then known as "Salsbery's Troubadours," and acted as joint star with Nellie McHenry. Not long after that he became connected with the Barnum & Bailey show, and this was the beginning of his wealth-getting activities.

While still prominent in the Barnum & Bailey show, which traveled largely in the West, Salsbery also organized the Forepaugh & Sells show for the Eastern territory, then largely controlled by the Ringling Brothers' circus.

In all these enterprises he was eminently successful and his success continued when he formed the Buffalo Bill Wild West Company, of which he was also the leading and moving spirit.

Salsbery was born in 1846 at Freeport, Ill., and his education was derived partly in the public schools, but largely in the school of experience, for he set out to seek his fortune early in life.

In 1861 he entered the army, and served throughout the civil war. At the close of the war he went on the stage, and in his career as an actor he appeared before every English-speaking public on earth.

But, as has been said, it was not as an actor, but as an inventor of amusements, that he won chief renown. After his success in this line had been established he also became interested in commercial enterprises, and was engaged as an officer and director of the following: Buffalo Bill's Wild West Company, Shoshone Irrigation Company, Cody & Salsbery Canal Company, Milner Live Stock Company, Milner & Boardman Realty Company, and a few others.

He was also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Lambs' and American Dramatists' Clubs.

He was married in 1887 to Rachel Samuels, of Newburgh, N. Y., and she and four children survive him.

## SOTHERN UNABLE TO APPEAR AS VILLON

Sydney Mather, a Washingtonian, Assumes Role.

E. H. Sothern was unable to appear as Francois Villon in "If I Were King" last night at the National Theater, owing to an aggravated case of throat trouble. The performance was given, however, with Sydney Mather in Mr. Sothern's role.

Mr. Sothern has been suffering with his throat for some time, and since arriving in Washington has been under the care of Dr. Richardson. In compliance with the physician's order Mr. Sothern remained in his hotel that he might be in condition to appear tonight. It was said at the theater this morning the rest had materially benefited Mr. Sothern, and he would positively play Francois this evening.

One of the largest audiences of the season attended the National last night to witness the performance of "If I Were King," and while the announcement of the star's illness prompted some to exchange their seats for a later performance about a third of the audience remained to see the play.

Sydney Mather, Mr. Sothern's understudy, who assumed the role at short notice, is a Washington actor.

He is young, virile and his interpretation of the role of Francois was highly pleasing. The actor received an ovation and was forced to respond to several curtain calls.

## ANDREW CARNEGIE PLAYS OLD KISS FOR DAUGHTER

Gay Time in Distributing Presents From Tree.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Jolly old Santa Claus was personated by Andrew Carnegie yesterday for the benefit of his little daughter and a lifelike representation of the children's friend the white-bearded philanthropist made. It was the first Christmas the Carnegies have spent in their new Fifth Avenue mansion.

The Christmas tree was a surprise for Margaret. She found it all decked out with just the presents she most wanted when she woke Christmas morning. The tree was set up in a big room on the second floor. Margaret is just six, and her interest in Santa Claus is at its height. Both her mother and father have been careful to cultivate in her a deep interest in the children's holiday patron. She was awake sometimes, and her first question was for Santa Claus.

"I believe he came," said Mr. Carnegie. "Maybe you'd better look about and see if he has been here."

Margaret looked, and a cry of delight marked her discovery. In the center of the big room she saw the beautiful tree, a sturdy Maine pine, all loaded down with presents and lighted with many-colored lights.

Then Mr. Carnegie essayed his lifelike part of old Santa. He helped Margaret in her explorations, while Mrs. Carnegie made a valuable assistant.

Presents from some of Margaret's gift friends were on the tree. There were also presents for some of the servants. Mr. Carnegie, who was feeling better than he has felt since his recent illness, spent almost his entire day with little Margaret and her Christmas tree. It was that the child might enjoy this Christmas in her new home that Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie came home when Mr. Carnegie was still in feeble health.

## BRAVE WOMAN CAPTURES A WOULD-BE THIEF

Pursued Burly Negro After He Attempted to Get Her Pocketbook.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—The bravery of Jeanette Arnold, a young woman, who lives at 114 Engle Street, Camden, N. J., in pursuing and attempting to catch a burly negro, who she alleges, tried to rob her, was responsible for the appearance of George Smith, the alleged thief, before Magistrate Cunningham in the central police court yesterday morning.

Miss Arnold testified that Smith attempted to steal her pocketbook on Wednesday afternoon in Market Street, near Ninth. She was walking down Market Street at the time and, feeling someone tugging at her pocket, quickly put her hand to her side and grabbed Smith by the wrist.

Because of the position in which she was standing her hold on the negro was not very secure and he easily escaped. Miss Arnold determined to recapture him and pursued Smith as fast as she could, crying "Stop thief" as she ran. Detective Frank Cannon, of the City Hall force, and Reserve Policeman Lazelle, who were attracted by the cries, joined in the chase. At Eighth Street Smith bearded a car and was endeavoring to hide himself among the passengers when the detective and policeman captured him.

Smith was held in \$1,000 bail for trial.

## TELEGRAPH BOYS ARE MRS. JACOBS' GUESTS

Baltimore Woman Entertains Also Employees of Her Country Estate.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 25.—Mrs. Henry Barten Jacobs, formerly Mrs. Garrett, gave her first entertainment of the season yesterday, and her guests were fifty district telegraph boys and the men, women, and children from her country estate.

Mrs. Jacobs, magnificent in imported gown, and blazoning with jewels, directed a vaudeville entertainment the artists of which came from four theaters.

She made each of her guests presents of toys and sealed envelopes containing money and sat at the head of a banquet table while a delightful luncheon was served.

## WOULD LEVY TAXES ON EXEMPTED PROPERTY

Northeast Citizens Protest to the Commissioners.

Evan H. Tucker, and W. J. Frizzell, representing the Northeast Citizens' Association, were before the District Commissioners today to present the resolution passed by the association relative to the exemption of property in the District from taxation. This resolution was prepared by the committee on taxation, and adopted at the last meeting.

The ground is taken that the major part of the property now exempted should be listed and taxed, including that belonging to churches and ecclesiastical bodies, charitable institutions, and educational institutions other than that owned by the District for public schools. It is declared that if the property now exempted were taxed there would be no need for an increased rate for necessary municipal expenses.

The resolution gives some significant figure relative to the matter compiled from the reports of the Assessor. It appears that the aggregate amount of property exempted is valued on the Assessor's books at \$219,020,983. Of this the United States owns \$204,827,891, and the District of Columbia \$3,676,588. The property of churches and ecclesiastical institutions is \$4,896,941. Charitable institutions have \$1,842,654, and the balance belongs to the foreign legations, cemeteries, and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.

Messrs. Tucker and Frizzell also presented to the Commissioners a resolution asking the Board to forward to the conference committee on the railroad terminal bill an amendment to the bill creating a commission to award the damages to private property, instead of leaving the matter to the courts as the bill now does.

## CATHERINE RICHARDSON BELIEVED TO BE INSANE

Arrested in Massachusetts on Charge of Attempted Matricide.

LITTLETON, N. H., Dec. 25.—It is generally thought here that Catherine V. Richardson, who was arrested at Revere, Mass., Wednesday night, on a charge of administering poison to her mother with intent to murder, has been mentally unhinged for the past year.

The impression is that there was no foul play so far as her father, William Richardson, was concerned, although his death was at the time thought to be strangely sudden. He died June 15, 1900, and was ill only two or three weeks.

At the time, he came from his hotel, the Parker House, Woodsville, to his family residence here, and immediately took to his bed. It is said by members of his side of the family, residing here, that no one dreamed of impending death, and that five minutes before he died he was up and about the room.

The property left by the father consisted of the family home in Littleton and \$11,000 in insurance. The largest share in the policy belonged to the mother.

In the past year Mrs. Richardson is said to have made her share over to Catherine. Since then the career of Catherine has been the talk of the town. She has spent the money right and left, and is said to have gone through all but \$6,000.